



By the King.

**A Proclamation against abuses in preparing  
and preferring Billes and other Writings to his  
Maiesties Signature.**



**I**he Kings most excellent Maiestie, observing the inordinate libertie that hath beene taken, chiefly of late times, in exhibiting to his Royall Signature, as well Billes to passe his great and privie Seale, and Warrants for preparing such Bils, as also Letters, and other instruments, and Writings of sundry natures, drawne by Scriveners, and other like persons, and not by his Maiesties Officers, to whom the care thereof appertaineth, whereof ensueth a continuall vexation to his Maiestie, and many times exceeding danger and prejudice both in his revenue and otherwise, Is fully resolved to abolish those abuses, which have of late yeeres crept into his service, and to reduce it to the ancient order and institution. And therefore his Maiestie doth hereby straighly charge and command, That no person or persons whatsoever (other then his Maiesties owne ordinarie Officers, to whose places it appertaineth) doe at any time hereafter presume to intermeddle with the drawing, writing, or preparing for his Maiesties Signature, of any Bill, warrant, Letter, or other instrument or writing whatsoever, upon paine of his Maiesties indignation and displeasure, and such imprisonment and other punishment as may justly be inflicted for their contempt: And that no person or persons, under the like paine, presume to preferre to his Maiestie to bee signed any such Bill, warrant, Letter, or other instrument or writing, not drawn or allowed by such his Maiesties ordinarie Officers, and by them signed and docketed, in cases where the like instruments have heretofore beene used to be signed and docketed: And that none of his Maiesties owne Officers, do presume to draw or prepare for his Highnes Signature, any Bill, warrant, Letter, or other instrument or writing, until they have received direction to draw the same, either by some signification of his Maiesties owne Royall pleasure, or by warrant from such as have beene accustomed and allowed to give such warrant, upon paine of his Maiesties displeasure, and to be debarred from the exercise and execution of their offices and places for such their default and abuse.

Given at his Maiesties Court at Roiston, the seuenth day of October, in the nineteenth yeere of His Raigne of Great Brittain, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

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M. D C. XXI.